

FIND FAMOUS CAVERN

Explorers in the Heart of an English Mountain.

ANCIENT RIVER BED IS THERE

All the Rock Surfaces Covered with Splendid Deposits of Caliche—Fossils of Marine Animals Made by Action of Water—Members of Derbyshire Pennine Club Busy.

London, Jan. 2.—Interesting explorations have been made in the roof of the Peak cavern at Castleton by members of the Derbyshire Pennine Club.

Wooden ladders were spliced together to a length of forty feet and then swung to the roof by means of ropes attached to a tall scaffold pole. The top of the ladder rested on the edge of a small shelf a few inches wide, above which is a vertical crack ten feet high. In this a short wooden ladder, resting on one foot, was placed sideways. It was very awkward to get up the short upper ladder, for if a man went into the fissure he got stuck, and when he came further out there was some danger of the ladder tilting. A slip would have involved a sheer drop of thirty feet on solid rock.

An Enormous Arch. The hole in the roof is about ten feet long and four feet wide in the middle. It has curved sides and pointed ends, the southern one being where the long ladder rested.

This hole shows the section of a fissure, the bottom portions having been swept away by the action of water which formed the enormous arch at the entrance to the cavern. The purpose of the exploration was to follow this fissure back into the heart of the hill, and very remarkable it proved to be.

From the edge of the opening the floor of the fissure, covered with loose scree, slopes up steeply in a southerly direction to a curious formation like a ruined spiral staircase with its steps worn away. The explorers scrambled up, and thus reached a higher and much narrower floor of the fissure. Here the walls were thickly coated with a soft white substance that looked like snow or foam, but went into a sticky mass like putty when squeezed in the hands. In one place this deposit is marked with countless tiny vertical fissures.

With considerable difficulty, the explorers proceeded to higher levels along the floor of the fissure. At intervals it rises abruptly—in one place as much as twelve feet—and it was difficult to get up the slippery walls in the exceedingly narrow space available. Indeed, one man got his foot wedged fast and could only liberate himself by partly wrenching away the sole of his boot.

Passages of Marvelous Beauty.

Above this portion the explorers entered a bedding plane, the formation of which is very different from the jointing plane fissure up which they had climbed.

Originally, of course, horizontal, the bedding plane now dips gently to the south, and it has been enlarged by water and shaped into most extraordinary forms. This ancient stream bed in the heart of the rocks is from fifteen to twenty feet wide. In places it is high enough for a man to stand upright, but toward its extremities there is only crawling room.

Here and there are big cavities in the floor, which had to be crossed with the utmost care. Incumbered with candles and climbing ropes, the explorers found it harder and harder to get along, and at last the roof got so low that they could not proceed any further along the main stream bed. At this point, however, there were several side passages of marvelous beauty.

All the rock surfaces were coated with splendid deposits of caliche, in all imaginable forms, which had probably never before been seen by man.

A low tunnel, twenty feet long, two feet high, and three feet wide, which could only be traversed a few inches at a time by a man lying on his back, communicated with a vertical chasm of great depth, which could not be descended without more elaborate tackle than the explorers had with them. At the foot of it could be seen the faint glimmer of the candle lights near the top of the ladder at the opening in the cavern roof.



JOHN BULL PERSONIFIED.

As can be seen, Sir Oswald Mosley is John Bull personified. He is the fourth baronet of a creation dating from 1781. Another baronetcy, conferred on a different branch of the family, was created in 1793, and became extinct in 1799. The first baronet of the present creation was made when John Parker Mosley became the head of the family on the death of his cousin, the third baronet of the second creation.

NO WORD SPOKEN AT MEETING

Clever, Original Manner in Which Pole Evades German Speech Law.

Speeches in Pamphlet Form Distributed Among the Audience and Blackboard Used.

Berlin, Jan. 2.—The curious method adopted by the oppressed Poles in Germany to evade the provisions of the new law relating to public meetings was revealed yesterday in the trial of three Polish residents of Ruhrort, in Westphalia, who had convened a political meeting.

Paragraph 19 of the new law, relating to public meetings, compels every speaker to use the German language. The Poles circumvented this enactment by holding "dumb" meetings, at which no word whatever is spoken.

At the beginning of this particular meeting the chairman wrote on a large blackboard on the platform an announcement that no speeches could be delivered owing to the prohibition of the use of the Polish language. The contents of the lecture, which would otherwise have been delivered, would be distributed among the audience in the form of a pamphlet.

This pamphlet was read by the whole audience in perfect silence. The resolutions were submitted to the meeting were then written on the blackboard, and adopted unanimously by a show of hands, still without a single word being spoken.

The public prosecutor took action against the conveners of the meeting for violating paragraph 19 of the new law, but the district court acquitted them. The public prosecutor lodged an appeal, but the higher court at Cologne upheld the judgment of the district court, and confirmed the acquittal.

In consequence of this precedent Polish "dumb" meetings, which are already extremely popular in all those parts of Germany where the Poles feel the need of congregating to demonstrate their grievances, can now be held without hindrance.

FIRE THEIR BIG GUNS

Ships of the Atlantic Fleet Practice Off Manila.

MONTH OF HARD WORK THERE

Annual Test of the Fighting Power of the Battle Ships—Efficiency and Discipline Not Hurt by the Entertaining the Officers and Men Have Enjoyed While Away.

On Board U. S. S. Louisiana,
U. S. Battle Fleet,
Manila, Nov. 2.

From a social point of view the climax of the cruise of the United States Atlantic fleet around the world was reached when the visit was made to Japan. Possibly the same statement might apply if the cruise were viewed from the standpoint of world politics. The climax, from a strictly business point of view, was reached when the fleet returned here from the Japanese and Chinese visits.

For more than three weeks the fleet has been engaged in battle practice. The work will not be finished entirely for another week. It consists chiefly in shooting a lot of big and comparatively small guns at targets under conditions that simulate as nearly as possible what would take place if the ships were engaged in actual battle.

The folks at home may have conceived the idea that the Atlantic fleet was sailing around the globe having a hullabaloo time of it, the officers and men being entertained lavishly, smothered almost with kindness, burdened with hospitality, acclaimed with delight, and having nothing else to do but to hurry to the next place and get more dinners, attend more receptions, go on more excursions, and listen to a lot of fine words about international friendship and brotherly love. There has been a lot of that, more of it indeed than the world ever witnessed before; but don't get the idea that that is what the modern battle ship fleet is for, or that it is the chief end of modern naval establishment.

The truth is that all this entertainment has interfered more or less with the real work of the battle-ship fleet. That work is to be as nearly ready as possible for war at a moment's notice. The only way to do that is to be prepared to shoot swift and straight. Hence it is that once a year Uncle Sam's war ships go through with what is known as battle practice. An entire year's drilling leads up to that one thing.

Efficiency in the Fleet. Last it may be thought that all the attentions showered on the fleet have caused a let-down either in efficiency or in discipline. It may be stated simply as a matter of cold truth that the Atlantic fleet has been brought to a state of efficiency in daily routine and persistent and well planned work that no American fleet ever reached before. It is true that while the fleet was in port nothing much could be done in the way of advancing efficiency, but while at sea all lost ground has been made up.

Never have the officers and men on a fleet worked harder, never have they worked more willingly, never have they been prepared better to do the work for which the fleet really exists. The fleet was in fine condition when Admiral Sperry took charge of it. The foundation had been laid for a fine development of skill through incessant labor. He moved right ahead. There was no satisfaction with what had been accomplished; there was no stagnation of forces.

Battle practice by any ship or fleet is going through the motions as if you were in actual battle. You get the range of an enemy and you fire all the guns at him that you would fire in battle and you do it as often and as accurately as you can.

The enemy—all this is known to naval people the world over and so one can talk about it in battle practice is a big target. It is supposed to represent the side of a battle ship in the middle section. It is about as long as the heavily armored part of an enemy's ship and about as high.

You let loose your guns at it while you are in motion and the range varies constantly. After a given time of shooting



Teaching Children an Appreciation of the Navy for Public House

has elapsed you bring in the target, make an estimate of the hits from the holes and rents, and the umpire give you your percentage. You fire all your big guns in one run in the daytime and you fire your little guns in night with searchlights on the targets. You are then supposed to be repelling torpedo craft.

The Night Ablaze. Then comes the night practice. That's a different story altogether. On the range you are once more. The searchlights shoot out as the whistle blows. There you have picked out the targets! Instantly a new set of demons cut loose. The projectiles all have what they call tracers on them. They are little tails which take fire in the air. You are firing with comparatively small guns now. Twice as many shots are in the air as in the daytime, and you can watch the course of every one of them.

The little rockets dart across the water in beautiful curves. They reach the top of the arc and then they curve down. Splash after splash springs up. Those rods of fire are going home. Some attraction like an immense magnet seizes them in their flight and draws them to the target. "You can't get away from me!" it seems to say. "Come here! Come here! Ah, I've got you!" Then your ears get to aching, your eyes are blinded with the flashes. If there is any noise on earth more devilish than that of a 3-inch gun, no one has yet recorded it. It seems to want to try to tear your ears to pieces. There is no great shock. These sound waves come bursting in on your ears and you feel like trying to beat them away.

Sorry for the Target. Still the arching rain of red-hot rods goes through the air. A little canvas speck all lighted up with searchlights is being peppered, and you say you feel sorry for any torpedo boat that would have to meet that fire. The whistle blows. What that was only half as long as the daylight run! Fully twice as many shots were fired! Well, it is hard to believe it, but in comes the target and again you are surprised that the thing is not full of holes, nothing but a hole in fact. Ah, but there are hits there, any one of which might have put a torpedo craft completely out of business. A good many hits, too! And when it is all over you see the real value of this training, and that night you can sleep feeling sure that if the ship ever does get into action, the other fellow will know a good deal about it.

Ship after ship goes through this performance. The days go by rapidly and before you know it a month has nearly gone. The fleet may have had a good time here and there. That was partly business and mostly social.

This much may be said in conclusion: The great business task of the Atlantic fleet is practically over. The fleet is now ready to go home. It is also ready for a feast, a frolic, or a fight.

WOMAN ACQUITTED IN COURT.

Trial Before Spanish Tribunal Will Result in Many Marriages.

Madrid, Jan. 2.—The trial of the 19-year-old woman who was prosecuted at Bilbao for approving the murder of a faithless lover has resulted in their triumphant acquittal.

Last year a young milliner named Jesusa Pajana was sentenced to eight years imprisonment for having killed her betrothed who had been faithless. There were special circumstances connected with the crime, and 10,000 women in Bilbao signed an address of sympathy with the girl and extolled her act. Jesusa was prepared by the editor of the Liberal.

The address was conveyed to Jesusa by six beautiful girls, and was afterward published. The public prosecutor decided that the publication of the address was a punishable offense, and citations to answer the charge were served on its author and all the signatories. The serving of the citations had been a long task, and this has caused the delay in the process.

It was apparent after the final speeches for the prosecution that sentiment was strongly in favor of such a verdict. It was received with loud applause, and the crowd around the courthouse, which included many of the defendants, cheered repeatedly.

The girl Jesusa, in whose behalf the address of sympathy was signed by the 10,000 women, has become a popular heroine. She is the most notable woman in that part of Spain, and when she is released from prison she will have many offers of marriage.

Many of the defendants are women of striking beauty, and they have likewise received many proposals from suitors who are in sympathy with their views. The newspapers publish eulogies of the 19-year-old women, and point out the futility of attempting to stifle public sentiment by public prosecution. The Liberal newspaper which prepared the address for the girl Jesusa will open a fund in her behalf.

Plaintiff Toy Fair.

Cardiff, Jan. 2.—Between 2,000 and 3,000 purchasers were admitted yesterday afternoon to the annual toy fair, organized by the Rev. T. Given-Wilson, vicar of Plinfaen, as a means of enabling the poorest fathers and mothers of his parish to act the part of Santa Claus to their own children. The proceeds will be devoted to St. Mary's Children's Hospital, and further gifts of new or old toys are eagerly requested. George R. Sims is asked as salesman and spectator.

Laugh and Grow Well.

Frankfort, Jan. 2.—A doctor in Frankfort is prescribing laughter as a cure for nervous diseases. He says sufferers should laugh regularly every day, and warns them that half-hearted measures are useless; they must laugh until the tears run down their cheeks.

LACKS HANDS OR FEET

Sportsman-Artist Conquers Drawbacks of Nature.

HAS ALWAYS BEEN OPTIMIST

Cecil Shirley, Employee in London Real Estate Office, Supplements His Income by Painting Christmas Cards in Water Color—Has Traveled in South Africa and Australia.

London, Jan. 2.—Cecil Shirley, who is engaged in an estate agent's office in Bedford row, is one of the most remarkable young men in London.

He was born nearly thirty years ago, without hands or feet. In fact, he is limbless below the elbows and knees.

And yet he is able to ride and shoot well, to dress and shave himself, to travel extensively quite unattended, and to make clever sketches.

During the last few weeks he has supplemented his income by painting Christmas cards in water color, and one of the cleverest of his designs is a painting on satin of the wild flowers which flourished last summer in the wilderness of Alderney.

A reporter found Mr. Shirley walking briskly about his office yesterday on a pair of wonderful artificial legs, and carrying documents from one desk to another by bringing the stumps of the upper arms together.

Comes of Hunting Family.

Mr. Shirley, who comes from an old Cheshire hunting family, has been an optimist since he was an infant. He is about the medium height, clean shaven, with a frank and cheerful expression.

"I was determined that I should never become a burden to any one, and I had a longing to travel," he said.

"It was not long before I could dress myself without assistance and use the stumps of my arms as if they were hands. I found artificial arms and hands were of no use to me, and I found also that holding a brush or a pen with the lips brought my face too close to my work and was injurious to the eyes, so I learned to hold the brush or pen between the stumps of my arms. In the same manner I now hold every article, from reins to a razor.

"In shooting I have a leather loop round my right shoulder and the stock of the weapon, and two small loops connect the trigger guard and trigger with my left upper arm.

"In the early part of 1899 I went to South Africa, and at Pretoria I interviewed President Kruger. I worked at farming, but after two and a half years I again took up sketching. At the time of the war I often came into contact with Boer commandos.

"Two years ago I went to Australia, where I did a great deal of riding, and painting insects, birds, and flowers. "I am shortly publishing my autobiography, which I have illustrated myself. I have taken part not only in flat races, but on one occasion in a steeplechase. The career of the famous M. P. Dr. Kavanagh, who was born limbless, always had a fascination for me, but I felt sorry that he could not enjoy travel as I have done."

DIVIDE FORTUNE OF PRINCE.

Estate of Late Archduke John of Austria to Be Settled in 1917.

Geneva, Jan. 2.—The fortune left by Johann Orth, of Austria, whose mysterious disappearance is a matter of history, amounts to between 20,000,000 and 40,000,000 crowns (i. e., between \$6,500,000 and \$13,500,000).

Such is the interesting statement made by Herr Wolfing's counsel in a libel action brought by the former archduke against the editor of the *Weltwoche*, which has just been decided at Zurich.

The case, which revealed the financial position of his former imperial client, stating that he was in the receipt of an annual income of 30,000 crowns (\$8,500), possessed a capital of 20,000 crowns (\$5,500), and expected a portion of Johann Orth's fortune in 1917.

The Emperor of Austria, it appears, has fixed that year for the distribution of Johann Orth's fortune "unless Johann Orth reappears."

Johann Orth was formerly the Archduke Johann Salvator of Austria, and was born in 1852. In 1889 he married an actress of the Vienna opera, renowned for her rank, and qualified as a master mariner. In the following year he purchased a ship, which he named the *Santa Margherita*, and sailed from London in company with his wife for Chile. The vessel failed to reach its destination and is supposed to have been lost, with all on board, off Cape Horn. In 1907 it was reported that the late archduke was still alive and had been seen in London, but this was not substantiated.

Leopold Wolfing is the present name of the former Archduke Leopold of Austria. He also renounced his rank to marry an actress, Wilhelmina Adamovich, in 1903, and adopted Swiss nationality. They quarreled in consequence of the lady's extreme devotion to the "simple life" and a divorce followed. Herr Wolfing afterward married Fraulein Maria Retter, a former starlet girl.

ON GOOD TERMS WITH GHOSTS

Lecturer Tells of Variety of His Acquaintance in the Spirit World.

Trip to Spookland Does Not Give Photographer a Chance, as Subjects Are Evasive.

London, Jan. 2.—"Ghosts I have met," with illimitable illustrations of ghosts actually seen, was the cheerful title of a lecture by Elliott O'Donnell, which drew an audience expectant of thrills to the Eustace Miles Restaurant yesterday.

Mr. O'Donnell began with an apology. "Unfortunately," he said, "ghosts choose to come when we are alone, and there is no chance of photographing. Therefore, the lantern slides have been made from drawings done by eminent artists under my supervision."

Mr. O'Donnell once took a house on a three years' lease in the west of England, where he heard noises—banging of bolts and blood-curdling noises. His housekeeper, in a moment of wild imagination, thought it was the ghost of a moose whose stuffed head hung on the wall. So Mr. O'Donnell sat up one night and saw the specter, which he described to the audience as the "ghost of an elemental man." He is so used to speaking that he told his experience in the most matter of fact way.

Mr. O'Donnell said he had heard the banshee and had "precipitated" himself, that is to say, he was out fishing, and concentrated his thought on home, with the result that his wife really saw him at home.

The real trip through ghostland began with the headless dog that haunts North Devon, and continued with the man in a blue coat who nurses a phantom baby, to the terror of those who see him.

"Sometimes the ghost can be neither seen nor heard," remarked the lecturer very earnestly, "but it can be smelt, which is very unpleasant."

At one point in the lecture the women gave little shrieks. "Oh, how awful! What a creature!" There loomed on the screen a face that sent shivers down the spine. It was the ghost of the cupboard of Westmoreland. An old woman, whose habit it was always to look under the bed, went to the cupboard instead, and saw this shuddering apparition of an evil, malicious face, with staring eyes and close-cropped hair.

After this the ghost with the box-shaped head, seen by Mr. O'Donnell and others in a barn, was quite a jovial spirit, and the little old woman who sits on a church yard wall in a midland town was positively amiable.

There were also the huge hand of the haunted doorway near Lands End, the ghost of the red-haired servant girl at Bristol, the apparition of the grotesque swine, and many other denizens of the fourth dimension.

AIR CRUISERS FOR GERMANY.

Four Zeppelin Airships to Be Built and Used as Scouts in War.

Berlin, Jan. 2.—The German ministry of marine has decided to order four airship cruisers from the Zeppelin Airship Construction Company, at Friedrichshafen.

Naval experts who recommended this innovation for scouting rather than for destructive operations. Each of the four aerial warships will have a capacity of from 12,000 to 14,000 cubic meters, so their size will be approximately equal to that of the latest Zeppelin vessels. They are to be built under Count Zeppelin's personal supervision, with all the latest improvements of the Zeppelin system embodied in them, and they will cost \$250,000 each. It is proposed to station two at Wilhelmshaven and two at Kiel.

Simultaneously with the construction of the aerial cruisers the supreme naval authorities propose to construct a new type of floating docks, which, when covered with a roof, will become floating balloon sheds. Hitherto the ministry of marine has obtained from the purchase of airships, all aerial vessels belonging to the government having been acquired by the war office.

The decision of the naval authorities that four aerial cruisers are necessary is an additional proof that German experts are very much in earnest in attributing extensive possibilities to the use of airships in warfare.

REFUSES TO KNEEL TO RIVAL

Singers Have Altercation on Stage and Band Plays to Drown Noise.

Berlin, Jan. 2.—During yesterday's performance of Wagner's "Walkure" at the Royal Opera House, Dresden, an amusing scene took place between the prima donnas Frau Wittich and Frau Krull, two of the best-known Wagner singers in Germany. These women have long been rivals, and only on rare occasions are they allowed to appear on the stage at the same time, the director of the opera being afraid that their dislike of each other might show itself in deeds.

In the "Walkure" Frau Wittich took the part of Brunhild, Frau Krull that of Sieglinde. All went well until the scene where Sieglinde falls on her knees before Brunhild. Instead, however, of assuming the attitude of supplication, Sieglinde was observed to stand before her partner, and before a minute had elapsed the two ladies were engaged in a violent altercation.

The director of the orchestra insisted on a fortissimo from every instrument under his control, but notwithstanding this, certain words of battle were overheard in the theater, which were, to say the least, unedifying. The cause of the outbreak was a preference shown to Frau Krull by Richard Strauss in giving her the leading part in his forthcoming opera, "Elektra." Frau Wittich felt herself ignored, and as Sieglinde would not condescend to kneel.

PLEASURE TRIP IN THE AIR.

Luxurious Vessels to Be Built in France for Long Voyages.

Paris, Jan. 2.—The *Figaro* states that in four months there will be four dirigible balloons capable of carrying fifteen passengers, the captain and two mechanics, ready for pleasure cruises in France.

The Transaerian Company is undertaking the work, and the craft will have a gas capacity of 17,500 cubic feet, and will be propelled by 200-horsepower motors.

The cradles, constructed on aluminum frames, will be furnished after the style of the saloon of a private yacht, and fitted with every luxury for long voyages.

The Transaerian Company is already building a series of stations, which will be fitted up as docks for the airships and stations for the passengers. Those of Sartrouville and Meaux exist already, and a third is being constructed at Vincennes. Others will be constructed at Nancy, Orleans, Bordeaux, Toulouse and Pau, towns which will be served by the balloon line.

The *Figaro* says that this is not, as some people might think, mere romance, but serious, solid fact, and the company has been formed by business men and practical engineers.

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